

**ABSTRACT**

**FRACTURING OF SUBTERRANEAN FORMATIONS**

Fracturing of a subterranean formation may be achieved using a hydrogel. A preferred gel is formed from a gel precursor formulation which comprises an aqueous formulation of poly (1,4-di(4-(N-methylpyridinyl))-2, 3-di(1-formylphenyl) butylidene), poly (vinyl alcohol) and a suitable proppant, in the presence of an acid catalyst. The gel may be prepared at the surface with a viscosity of greater than 200 cp measured at  $100\text{s}^{-1}$  and then injected into the subterranean formation under high pressure to fracture the formation.